

*Administration of Barack H. Obama, 2010*

**Statement on the International Criminal Court's Announcement Concerning the 2007–2008 Postelection Violence in Kenya**

*December 15, 2010*

Today, as the International Criminal Court announces the names of six suspects alleged to have participated in the postelection violence that threatened to tear Kenya apart 3 years ago, I encourage all Kenyans take a moment to reflect on the tremendous progress their country has made since those dark days. Together, you have been working to reconcile your communities, to reform your institutions to better serve the public good, and to put your country on a path to lasting peace and prosperity. Kenya is turning a page in its history, moving away from impunity and divisionism toward an era of accountability and equal opportunity. The path ahead is not easy, but I believe that the Kenyan people have the courage and resolve to reject those who would drag the country back into the past and rob Kenyans of the singular opportunity that is before them to realize the country's vast potential.

In pursuit of these goals, I urge all of Kenya's leaders, and the people whom they serve, to cooperate fully with the ICC investigation and remain focused on implementation of the reform agenda and the future of your nation. Those found responsible will be held accountable for their crimes as individuals. No community should be singled out for shame or held collectively responsible. Let the accused carry their own burdens, and let us keep in mind that under the ICC process they are innocent until proven guilty. As you move forward, Kenyans can count on the United States as a friend and partner.

NOTE: The statement referred to Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Finance Uhuru Kenyatta, Secretary to the Cabinet Francis K. Muthaura, Minister of Higher Education, Science, and Technology William Samoei Ruto, Minister for Industrialization Henry Kiprono Kosgey, and former Commissioner of Police Mohamed Hussein Ali of Kenya; and Joshua arap Sang, radio presenter, Kass FM.

*Categories:* Statements by the President : Kenya, International Criminal Court investigation of 2007–2008 postelection violence.

*Names:* Hussein Ali, Mohamed; Kenyatta, Uhuru; Kosgey, Henry Kiprono; Muthaura, Francis K.; Ruto, William Samoei; Sang, Joshua arap.

*Subjects:* Criminal Court, International; Kenya : 2007–2008 postelection violence; Kenya : Democracy efforts; Kenya : Relations with U.S.

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